

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 001413

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR SA/INS, SA/RA  
LONDON FOR POL/GURNEY, NSC FOR MILLARD

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/28/2013

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PTER](#) [PREL](#) [NP](#)

SUBJECT: NEPAL: MAOISTS SET JULY 31 DEADLINE FOR POSSIBLE  
END TO CEASE-FIRE

REF: KATHMANDU 1388

Classified By: Ambassador Michael E. Malinowski for reasons 1.5 (b,d).

11. (C) On July 25, Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa's government replied to the Maoist letter setting pre-conditions for the resumption of peace talks (reftel). In its response, the Government of Nepal (GON) reaffirmed its commitment to the peace talks, but stated it would not concede to Maoist demands without first initiating the third round of negotiations.

12. (C) On July 27, the insurgents responded to the GON in an 8-page letter addressed to the negotiating team and signed by Maoist political leader Babarum Bhattarai. The letter, which has not yet been made public, but which we expect soon will, demands that the GON implement its pre-conditions (reported reftel) by July 31 or face a break-down in the cease-fire. The final page of the letter summarizes the Maoist ultimatum and is provided below in rough translation:

BEGIN TEXT:

Maoists have requested the government fulfill all the decisions (mentioned below) made during the first and second round of talks by July 31, 2003, Thursday to show the government's commitment towards the cease-fire. If these pre-requisites for dialogue are fulfilled by then, then the Maoists would come for the third round of talks. If not, the Maoists will conclude that the government has unilaterally dissolved the cease-fire and the dialogue.

-- Implement the decision made during the second round of talks to limit the activities of the Royal Army within 5 kilometers of the barracks, release the central level prisoners of war and publicize the whereabouts of the missing.

-- In the new round of talks, the King should involve himself in the dialogue or give full authority to the formal dialogue team to make agreement on necessary subjects including the progressive political solution and have the determined authority to follow the agreements.

-- The Royal Nepal Army should publicize its determination to follow the code of conduct and the decisions made during all rounds of talks.

-- Abandon the anti-terrorist treaty signed recently with America for five years and throw out all the American military advisors and specialists from the country.

-- Publicize the progressive agenda of the old regime.

END TEXT

13. (C) Comment. The Maoist response to last week's letter from Prime Minister Thapa's negotiating team came unexpectedly fast, suggesting that the Maoist leadership had decided already to break the cease-fire and attempt to deflect responsibility for the failure of the talks onto the GON. There is virtual unanimity among non-Maoist spokesmen for political and civil society that the GON will not and should not meet the insurgents' unrealistic pre-conditions for resumption of the peace talks. Post will seek further information from government sources and hold an Emergency Action Committee in anticipation of renewed violence. End Comment.

MALINOWSKI